

**Fact Sheet for House Bill 334**  
**Introduced by Rep. Eck**

TRADITIONAL METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING VS. ALTERNATIVE  
CONTRACTING METHODS

**Traditional Methods of Construction Contracting:**

A designer working alone creates plans and specifications and then completes the design phase BEFORE passing the plans on to a builder, who then has to build the project using the designer's plans.

**Alternative Contracting Methods:**

The builder works with the designer to help create the plans and specifications. By utilizing the builder's knowledge and expertise while designing the project, potential construction problems can be identified and fixed BEFORE construction begins. This saves both time and money.

Another benefit of using these methods is that the builder can begin constructing the project before all of the design work is complete. This saves time and allows the construction phase to be completed sooner than under the traditional method, where the plans must be completed before construction can begin.

IN SUMMARY

This bill allows the DOT to use the same types of contracting methods for construction projects as other State agencies. Other Montana agencies, counties, and cities have been doing this successfully for years. These alternative methods will save the state both time and money.